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10. Hongkong, 10th August, 1950.

Intimations.

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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

Hongkong, 31st August, 1888.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1888.

A significant point in connection with our

undermanned European police force, is to

be seen in the number of time-expired

men who have either left or are about to

leave the service. Four men of excellent

character went away a month or two ago,

and at least as many more will be follow-

ing their example very shortly. What is

the reason that these experienced officers

refuse to rejoin? In the first place promo-

tion is almost unobtainable, in the second

they are greatly underpaid, and in the third

they would get even lower wages, on re-

joining, than they at present receive. There

is nearly ten shillings a week

difference between the pay to-day and that

of four or five years ago, the old privilege of

remitting part of their pay home at 4s. 2d.

to the dollar has long been stopped, the men

complain that they "get no encouragement,"

and affirm that it is more remunerative

for them to rejoin a home force at the

lowest rates than to stay here. They

would get literally higher pay—not pro-

portionately, but actually higher! And yet

the authorities here, instead of making it

worth these men's while to stay, and main-

taining a body of constables who know the

native criminal classes here, understand

something of their language and much of

their habits, send out every now and then

and practically decoy—no other term can

be used—fresh men from the police forces

of Great Britain, only to have raw, quickly-

dissatisfied, half-useless constables, who

either desert, get dismissed, or leave again

as soon as their engagements are at an

end. The authorities cannot plead

economy as an excuse—one week we find

a Sanitary Superintendent getting nearly

\$100 a month added to his "honorarium,"

simply to make him equal to another

overpaid official, and in a thousand other

ways money is lavished in the higher

branches of the Public Service. But where

\$15 men are concerned they are severely

kept down and told to be thankful that they

get so much. We do not expect that any

benefit will result from the memorial

on the subject which they got presented

lately to the Governor. They may be as

lucky as the Fire Brigade, and have,

literally, "a sop to Cerberus" dropped

from the official table, of which, as in the

case referred to, the bulk will never reach

them, but that will be all. Let us pay our

police a little more, equally as a matter of

justice to them and for public convenience.

They have no very great hardships—such

as frosts, &c., to bear, we know; they have

a fairly easy time; but so has "Robert"

at home, as a rule, and he is better paid

for it. Why should the ratepayers keep

expending large sums for recruits to come

out from home, only to lose them as soon

as they have obtained sufficient experience

to make them really useful? Yet that is

what has been done for many years in

Hongkong, and with most unsatisfactory

results. The Australasian Colonies get

half of our trained policemen, and the other

half, or those who survive, return home.

claims of these useful public servants should have been ignored for so long. If the revenue will not permit a reasonable addition to the pay of the police, we would recommend His Excellency the Governor to consider whether the time has not arrived when the numerous and extravagantly paid sinecures in the Service should be summarily abolished. So long as these anomalies are allowed to exist in the higher grades, it certainly cannot be fairly claimed that the financial affairs of this colony are economically managed.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter.)

EGYPT.

LONDON, August 31st.

It is reported that 500 Dervishes stormed a fort near Wady Halfa which the garrison stubbornly defended. Lieutenant Machell with 100 Soudanese rushed the fort, killing eighty Egyptians; our loss was trifling.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A MONSTER trout was captured a few weeks ago in the river Ichen, at Winchester, weighing 16 lb. 2 oz., and measuring 32 in. in length and 21 in. in circumference. He had haunted the stream for years, was as well known in the city as Queen Anne's statue in the High-street, and had acquired quite a reputation for the number of rods he had broken and the quantity of fishing tackle he had carried away.

There is very little news of importance from Macao to-day. As a sequel to the row at the Military Club, reported the other day, Mr. Leão, a clerk in the Colonial Secretary's office, was admitted a member of that institution, and the next day he was elected Chairman of the Committee of Directors. Senhores Marques d'Oliveira and Horta, probably disgusted with these irregular proceedings, had their names erased from the list of the members of the *Gremio*. Governor da Costa will leave for Japan within a couple of weeks, and Senhor Costa Duarte, the Colonial Secretary, takes his departure for Lisbon by the next French mail; the Government of Macao will then devolve on the Executive Council. No fresh cases of cholera are reported from the lazarets. The transport *India* is under orders to leave for Lisbon, but no date has yet been fixed for her departure. The Dean of the Cathedral is getting worse. Great dissatisfaction is expressed at the summary manner in which the patients who died from cholera at Cacilhas were buried under a few feet of sand.

OUR 'Hawkeye' reporter during his morning peregrinations stumbled across the following characteristic epistle from one of our popular local storekeepers to an equally popular skipper of a local liner:—

Hongkong, 3rd September, 1888.

Captain M—, Bellyjoss Steamship Co.
Sir—As our coolie was leaving the shop in the usual course of his duty, carrying a tin box containing two cream cheeses addressed to Captain M—, as ordered, up comes a lady, and says she, "What's that smelling so nice?" Says I—"It must be your own sweet self!" Says she—"Git along with yer," and gives me a poke in the ribs with her humbrella (Spot visible). "Now," says she, "What have you got there?" I seize the box, opens it, smells it, and says—"Reminds me of a man I have loved, not wisely, but too well," and tells the coolie to come along. Coolie starts, that coolie will not start any longer, he was buried at 4-20, says the lady, "For pity's sake, Mam," says I, "they are for Captain M—," specially ordered six months ago. Says she—"Not the bulky Captain of the Bellyjoss?" "The same," says I, (growing bold), "but with the tear still in my eye from the poke with the humbrella." "Well," says she, "if it's for Daisy M— (whatever that may mean), have you got any more?" "Nary a one in the world," says I. "Then," says she, my friend, "I'll take one, and you send the other to Captain M— with my compliments." "Mam, please Mam," says I. "Lady of the Lake," says she, "I'm, ta, old buffer," and off she goes, then turns round and says, "mind you charge both to Captain M—," at which I fainted, I have just recovered and forward what is left—i.e., one cheese in good order and condition.

Your's in sorrow,
DISCONSOLATE JOE.

LORD WOLSELEY contributes to the *Fortnightly Review* an exceedingly interesting article on "Courage," treating the subject specially in its practical manifestations. It is sometimes said that small men are generally braver than tall men; but one of the most stolidly and immovably brave men Lord Wolseley ever knew is several inches over six feet in height. I have often seen him, from pure laziness, when relieved from duty in the advanced trenches before Sebastopol, step out calmly in rear of the parallel where he happened at the moment to be, and take a bee-line for camp, exposed for many hundred yards to a heavy rifle-fire from the advanced works of the Russians. I remember a curious instance of his imperturbability some years afterwards, when I met him in China. In the assault of the Taku forts we had to cross two ditches filled with water. One of these was sufficiently wide and deep to require a bridge to be thrown over it. In carrying up a light infantry pontoon bridge to launch into this ditch, a round crowd of youthful swimmers, and the competitors at the recent sports have caused it to sink, and we had great difficulty in getting the injured pontoon out of the bridge under the close severe fire to which we were exposed from the works behind the ditch. In common with all the other mounted officers, I had left my horse at a safe distance behind under some cover. I was therefore astonished when, upon standing up after working at this little bridge on the ground, to see beside me a very tall man on a very tall horse. The position was actually comical, and as well as I remember, I laughed as I saw my cool friend there at the edge of the ditch, a regular cockshot for every Chinaman near him. He said something to me which, owing to the great din and noise at the moment, I could not hear, so, moving nearer to him, I carefully put my hand on his leg. He winced a little as I touched him, and, calmly saying, "Don't put your hand on my leg, for I have just had a bullet in it," went on with his conversation as if only a mosquito had bitten him. That man is now known to all as Lieutenant-General Sir Gerald Graham, V.C.

H.M.S. *Satellite*, *Esplor*, and *Mertin* returned to port to-day from a cruise.

THE *Correio da Manhã*, alluding to the date of 25th August, 1849, when a detachment of Portuguese soldiers under Lieut. Mesquita, took possession of the Passalão or Barriett Fort, after dislodging the Chinese garrison, advocates the erection of a fit monument to the heroic deliverer of the Holy City.

PROBABLY in no country are examples of longevity so numerous and so striking as in Russia. The latest of these instances is that of a woman who is only forty years younger than the Patriarch Isaac who was hanged. This human relic of the past, who celebrated her 140th birthday some weeks ago, lives exclusively on potatoes and milk. She was at all times a strict teetotaler. She is still lively, brisk, and cheerful, and can read without spectacles.

SOME Chinamen were this morning charged at the Police Court, before Mr. Sercombe-Smith, with being found yesterday in the ruins of the late fire at Lyndhurst Terrace for an unlawful purpose. The defendants admitted picking up wood, nothing more, and were sent a gaol for fourteen days with hard labour. Others found stealing articles which they had unearthed from the ruins were sent to gaol for a month with hard labour.

TO-DAY at the Police Court, before Mr. Wodehouse, five Chinamen appeared on remand charged with assaulting the Police while in the execution of their duty on 31st ulto. The defendants were charged with assaulting an Indian constable named Beang Singh, who while on his beat near Magazine Gap had attempted to stop them in the act of carrying away some sticks and tree branches. One of the women on being arrested after cutting and wounding complainant with a sickle, had gone to the Mount Gough station and laid an information against him for indecent assault. Inspector Corcoran in his evidence this morning said that when complainant arrived at the Station he had cuts on his hands and many bruises about his legs. One of the women had on her head a band which she said was done by complainant with his trunk when he had been repelled from, committing an indecent assault on her. Witness thought it could not have been done by a trunk, but by a fall against a stone; the woman had been charged with stealing was a very trifling quantity. His Worship dismissed the case.

THIS morning at the Police Court, before Mr. Sercombe-Smith, a Chinaman giving the name of Chan Lin Kin was charged by the Police with fraudulently attempting to take out of the Colony one Ng Aaz for purposes of emigration on the 31st ulto. The complainant said he was a farmer belonging to Haiphong, and had come to Hongkong in a junk about a week ago to look for work, along with a clansman. On landing, the Praya they were met by defendant who said he could get them plenty of work and asked them to go and stay at his house in Bird Street. On the second day after arriving at the house the accused asked them to carry a bucket for him down to the Praya where it was put into a boat and taken on board a steamer; they went with it and some Punli people also. Just as they got to the ladder of the steamer she started to go, when complainant and his clansman hesitated to ascend the ladder but the Punli men kicked and cuffed them so that they had to go. On getting on deck the two farmers were put in irons to the ship's rigging, but they finally managed to get off and sprang overboard where they were rescued by the police. Mr. J. Hastings, of Messrs. Wotton and Deacon's, who watched the case on behalf of the accused, asked for a remand, which was granted till the 11th inst. bail being taken in two sureties of \$200 each.

THE V. R. C. AQUATIC SPORTS.

A much smaller attendance than usual inaugurated the Annual Swimming Races of the Victoria Recreation Club on Friday afternoon, and taken as a whole the competitions were scarcely up to the average of past seasons. An old stager visiting the Bath-house after a lapse of some years cannot fail to be at once struck with the altered character of the sport; a dozen years ago the swimming world was quite in the front rank of our local athletic exercises, and several years afterwards the splendid form displayed by such "crack" professors in the art of natation as Dudley Travers, J. Cook, Joe McLeod, H. Munster Schulze, W. Dunman, A. K. Travers, C. J. Hirst, Stanley Cope, C. S. Goodwyn, Frank Grimble, and numbers of others, enabled these annual festivals to retain a firm hold on public interest. But all that has changed now; the men who fought out the fight to the bitter end in the good old days have given place to a new generation of half-grown youths and school-boys. The leaders of the past have become the followers of the present, and the arena has been resigned to a new race who have sprung into existence with the altered character of the days in which we live. Our Hongkong Trojans are being rapidly superseded by a race of Tritons, born and bred in the colony, who with characteristic modesty are elbowing the veterans into the back seats where they will gradually become mere memories of a decayed generation. However, it must be admitted that the juvenile natadists of the Victoria Recreation Club are thorough masters of the art of swimming; in fact, we doubt if any port in the world could produce a better all round crowd of youthful swimmers than the competitors at the recent sports have. Although there was no one of the class of Dudley Travers—the fastest amateur we have ever seen—and probably none quite so good as Cook, Dunman, and Grimble in their best days, yet there were plenty speedy and a few strong swimmers, and the ornamental work, headers from spring-board, plunging, diving for objects, etc., were admirably done. Richardson, of the Chinese Imperial Customs, is a very fine swimmer, but both in the long race round the Red Buoy on Friday and in the two lengths handicap on Saturday he was far too heavily weighted, and likely enough he was not in first class condition. We would commend the powerful and effective side-stroke used by this gentleman to those youthful aspirants for aquatic honours who apparently imagine that a dashy over-hand action, accompanied by a great deal of unnecessary splashing, is the royal road to rapid propulsion through the water.

On Saturday the proceedings began, with diving for objects, nine competitors being the mark—E. George, C. Kew, F. Lammer-

Shepherd, J. Saunders, Hayward, A. A. de Mello, M. Fredericks, and R. Hopkins. The water was very muddy and consequently most of the "divers" were unable to show their best form; however, Saunders brought up the whole of the ten cups, Shepherd running him hard with only one less, whilst Fredericks was a capital third. The running header from the cross spring-board proved an easy win for F. White, who dived in excellent form; F. Lammerick thoroughly deserved second honours, and Saunders, George, and Fredericks were all in a long way above average juvenile form. A dozen competitors for the Boy's Handicap, distance two lengths of the bath, made this a particularly lively event, and a fine struggle ensued for rather more than half the journey when W. Stopani, Rose, and C. Cook were just ahead of E. Lammerick, who started at scratch. After a grand race home Lammerick's superior reach enabled him to pass Stopani and win very cleverly in the very fair time of 83½ seconds. A splendid finish was witnessed in the Open Two Lengths Race, in which F. Shepherd, by gamely sticking to work after appearing well beaten, managed to beat Richardson by a few inches in the last three strokes—time 76½ seconds. In the header from stage it was a near thing between M. Fredericks and F. White, both diving beautifully, and although the judges decided in favor of the first named, public opinion was pretty evenly divided. The long race (handicap) round the Red Buoy and back, as usual excited a lot of interest, the starts ranging from Richardson at scratch to De Mello, who had sixty seconds. The latter took a strong lead at first, but by steering a course a long way to the eastward, he lost the benefit of the tide, and in rounding the mark he soon lost his advantage, Saunders (50 seconds) going straight as an arrow through the slack water and turning first for home well in front. Richardson made the same mistake as the limit man or he probably would have won, as he was rapidly overhauling the leaders at the finish. All the way home Saunders was closely pressed by De Mello and Fritz Lammerick, but succeeded in keeping in front to the end and won a brilliant race by about three yards, the other pair finishing neck and neck—time 2 min. 15½ sec.

The hurdle race attracted a big field, but C. Kew quickly secured the lead and negotiating the fences much more cleverly than his opponents, won rather easily from F. Grimble. A tug-of-war between a score of small boys against half that number of bigger juveniles proved rather a fiasco, the infants, not comprehending the business, being vanquished without much difficulty.

There was a very much larger attendance on Saturday, the bath-house being densely crowded; the race for soldiers doubtless attracting the military element, which appeared in great force. The competitions were also much better than on the previous day, the swimming races especially being most lively. In the 50 yards race, the young Saunders scored a most meritorious victory, covering the entire length of the bath and about a third of the return journey. The full distance was 167 feet, and Shepherd was only beaten 12 feet. None of the other competitors were in the hunt. A grand struggle was witnessed in the two lengths handicap race for boys under 14 years, ten aspirants for aquatic fame facing the starter. Considerable interest was evinced in the meeting of W. Stopani (scratch) and C. Cook (2 seconds), who, it will be remembered, swam a dead-heat twice last year when starting on equal terms, and who are probably the best swimmers in the colony for their respective ages. Cook made the most of his time allowance but was unlucky enough to steer a bad course and to get closed in by several of the boys in front, whilst his rival kept straight as an arrow, and setting a very powerful stroke for a youngster so rapidly overhauled the others that he took the lead before making the turn. From this point the scratch man drew clear away and won somewhat easily by half a dozen yards from Cook, who got rid of C. Brandt, another plucky little swimmer, after a severe tussle. Another fine race took place in the Two Lengths Handicap, which fell to F. Lammerick (6 sec.) and C. Kew (6 sec.) by a few inches in 1 min. 16½ sec.; the latter having all the best of the race until he commenced to try and "scramble" home after being fairly collared. Richardson (2 sec.) swam splendidly in this event and was only beaten a very short distance from the winner. The plunging proved rather a tedious exhibition, and eventually C. Kew and G. W. King came out first and second respectively, beating six others. In the running header from the middle spring-board F. White confirmed the correctness of yesterday's form, winning by any number of points from F. Lammerick, M. Fredericks and four others. The Canoe Race proved a capital race between F. Lammerick and G. Jorgie, the former eventually coming in first by several yards, but as he started three seconds in advance of his proper time the Committee had no alternative but to disqualify him, Howard being placed second. A magnificent struggle took place between Privates Hancock and Cooper of the 58th Regiment, the former, swimming in grand style, taking the lead at the beginning of the last length and winning handsomely in 2 min. 34 sec. There were seven starters for this event, and all performed creditably. A tug-of-war brought the sports to a satisfactory conclusion. The arrangements were all that could be desired, the handicapping especially being first class. Messrs. F. Grimble and J. Sampson acted as umpires, Major Ellis, 58th Regiment, as referee, Lieut. Metcalfe, 58th Regiment, as starter, and Mr. G. Turner as official time-keeper, and gave the utmost satisfaction in these roles.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

SOME BANKING CONUNDRUMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." Sir—Having heard from home that Bondholders of the Chinese Government Loans negotiated by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, as agents of the Chinese Government, intend asking the Bank to account to them for the differences received by the Bank from the Chinese Government, and what they received from the Bank for subscribing their share of the money, I have looked into the matter, and find that the Chinese Government Loans of 1895, 1902, and 1905, are all accounted for, and that the Bank has received from the Chinese Government Loans of 1895, 1902, and 1905, as an example I am anxious for information on the following points:—

- 1.—By Articles 3 and 4 of the Agreement, the Bank received from the Chinese Government "Obligations to Bearer" for Tael 1,851,719.24. Did "Obligations to Bearer" mean the documents crisp, nice and convenient for the hands of the public—i.e., the public to be let in and the Bank out? If so, the public lent the Bank Tael 1,851,719.24, and the Bank lent the Chinese Government Tael 1,851,719.24. The question therefore which presents itself to me is—Can a Banker pledge a security for more than he has himself advanced upon it?
- 2.—Did "Obligations to Bearer" enable or warrant the Bank to assume the double capacity of principal and Agent, and can any bank legally, in the same transaction, appear in the two characters?
- 3.—If a Banker borrows from the public on behalf of, or as Agent for, any Foreign Government, will the Bank be responsible to the

public?—i.e., will the Bank be responsible to the public for the "Obligations to Bearer?"

4.—If the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation did not guarantee the "Obligations to Bearer" of the Chinese Government, can the Bank charge the public anything for doing nothing?

5.—Will it not be greatly folly to submit to such a "squeeze" by the Bank and not attempt to recover what has certainly been wrongly obtained from the public by the Bank?

6.—Will the public take some of the gilt off the cupola of the offices of the Bank or the other ginger-bread connected with the establishment, by demanding the difference between the 13.80 per cent per annum received by the Bank from the Chinese Government and the rate at which it issued the Loan to the public (viz. 8 per cent), as well as the differences in amount of loans between what the Bank received from the public, and what it paid over to the Chinese Government?

7.—Will the Manager and Directors of the Insurance Companies be doing their duty to their shareholders if they do not recover from the Bank these differences not only on this loan, but on all the loans where they have invested their shareholders' money? This query also applies to all those who invested "Trust" monies in these Loans.

8.—Can the Bank, as Agents (they cannot, it seems to me, do it otherwise without being responsible) part with the Chinese Government's "Obligations to Bearer" at a lower interest than 13.80 per cent? The Bank received a very handsome commission from the Chinese Government under the guise of "difference in exchange." Can you tell me where the Imperial Edicts for this and the other Loans are to be seen?

The *Economist* of the 25th January, 1879, after calling attention to the rumours that the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation received from the Chinese Government a higher rate of interest than the Bank offered the public, said:—"If the Chinese Government is to pay so high a rate of interest, it is as well the public here should be acquainted with the facts of the case. As we have before us a corroboration of documents, we have felt justified in calling attention to the subject. But how many investors personally see the *Economist*? Not if the brokers can help it!"

Of course the bondholders in China and Japan generally will follow and share the success of the London bondholders; therefore my suggestions are of local interest and I may hope for the information required.

Roughly speaking, should the London bondholders be successful, as they must, identical cases having been already decided in the law Courts of England) the differences on all the Loans to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will be equal to the Reserve fund.

Mr. White, a partner in Messrs. Baring Brothers, said, I believe, before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Foreign Loans, "that such a thing as taking a loan from a Foreign Government at one price and issuing it to the public at another, was unknown in the house of Baring's."

Yours faithfully,
BONDHOLDER.

Hongkong, 4th September, 1888.

THE LATE DR. YOUNG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." Sir—I shall thank you to insert the following few lines in a corner of your valuable journal.

In your morning contemporary's issue of the 21st ultimo, I see a correspondence about the late Dr. Young, with the aim and substance of which I fully agree, and no doubt so will every right-thinking man. But why should the writer of that letter single out the Parsees, and not include the others of the Indian community, one and all of whom are still here a very high opinion of that worthy man? I now hear that the Parsees have started a private list for circulation amongst themselves, and that they have fixed upon a certain limit for each individual subscriber so as to suit the purses of intending subscribers, rich and poor alike. I would, therefore, request the promoters of this subscription to invite the co-operation of the whole of the Indian community, and I have not a shadow of a doubt that all would be vying with each other in loosening the strings of their purses to do honor to the memory of one so good, so gentle, and so generous. Let them not delay. Let them invite subscribers. Funds could be pouring in freely from all sides. What to do with the funds, how to perpetuate this worthy name, must be left for after-arrangement. But let a beginning be made. To-day open the subscription list, to-morrow it swells to a large amount. Man could perform no more pious, more sacred duty than paying willing tribute to the memory of departed worthies.

Yours faithfully,
P.

Hongkong, 4th September, 1888.

PAID DIRECTORS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." Sir—It has long been conspicuously apparent to the residents of this Colony that many of the public Companies of the place suffer from a superabundance of overpaid directors, of whom some services are admitted to be useful, but still far too highly remunerated. Are there not many gentlemen whose names could be mentioned, drawing large allowances from at least six different commercial concerns, some of them yielding infinitesimal profits to their shareholders? If such is the case it would surely be interesting to have their names published together with the collective remuneration which they allow themselves to draw. If these gentlemen—say the majority of them—do anything more than examine and pass the acts and suggestions of their managers, of which they understand next to nothing, the same would also be interesting information for those who bear the burden and the oppression of the present hard times. I would not advocate the introduction of unpaid directors for the various enterprises of the colony, but I think that some able men could be found who would cheerfully consent to give their trifling services much more on the *pro-rata* principle than at present is the rule. At home we find hosts of very able directors giving their services gratuitously.

Yours faithfully,
SHAREHOLDER.

Hongkong, 3rd September, 1888.

[[If our correspondent, or any other person interested, cares to take the trouble to compile a list of our local directors with the amounts they draw annually as remuneration for services rendered, we shall be glad to give the same a prominent place in our columns.—Ed. *Hongkong Telegraph*.]]

FLOODS NEAR NEWCHANG.

The following translation of a letter from a Catholic Priest in Shingking gives a deplorable picture of the damage done by the inundations near Newchwang:—

"All the shops and inns are crowded with people who have escaped from certain death. Whole villages have disappeared under water, to the west and north, there being four feet greater depth than in 1886 when so much damage was done. Here in Newchwang we have about two feet more than two years ago, the streets being converted into small rivers, and the houses and yards full of water, so much so that cooking or washing the kangs is out of the question. The condition generally of the people is miserable beyond description, yet they are very fortunate compared to their relatives, who have perished, either by the falling of their habitations or by drowning—in great numbers—as can be easily understood by us in Newchwang, whose situation is on much higher ground than where the valleys were protected from the River Liao Ho, by dykes, which have now nearly all given way to the tremendous freshets. The beds of the rivers, large and small, villages and fields, are now one vast sea. All one can do is to crawl with such terrible necessities under one's eyes. We are full to overflowing with the half-drowned, and already half-starved country people, and very soon it will be all over with many of us if friends do not come to our help. I know from experience that I shall not appeal to you in vain—and that you will do what you can for me and my poor fellow-creatures."

I have a small community of 100 souls on the other side of the river, about 10 miles off. No news from them, and I fear very much they have suffered the fate of many other villages. At this moment there are 15,000 persons in the town saved from the districts under water, and still they come, by hundreds at a time, in boats of all sizes sent out by other survivors. Many are drowned on the way, no doubt, for to-day we have an overladen boat capsized, and ninety were lost. It is not difficult to believe that with those buried under falling houses and ruins, the drowned, and the starved, the number of deaths may be counted by thousands. The miseries cannot be described, and I am at my wit's end what to do.

E.

CHI-NAN FU.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

12th August 1888.
For six days we have had rain in these parts. It is regarded as the longest and heaviest rain for many a year. The creeks are swollen, but the Yellow River gives us no trouble in Shan-tung.

The Taotai and other officials at last granted the American missionary an interview, and reported all points to the Governor. The Governor has decided that all questions of property must be postponed till after the examination for Master's Degree. The literary examination will close in October, and the military in December. In some respect it seems wise to postpone the vexed question of the census connected with the *literati*, but we fear it is only a policy of dilly-dallying. We expect nothing done till the year 1889, and possibly 1890, in time to report to the great

Gazette, dealing with the mines of Yunnan and the employment of Japanese mining engineers and metallurgical processes for the development of the once famous mines of that province, which country, though recovering slowly, is still suffering from the devastations and depopulations of the Mohammedan wars. Kuangsi and parts of Kuangtung have also suffered much from the dire effects of the Taiping rebellion, and the West River banks, once containing large numbers of rich and populous cities, are now in great part covered with jungle and deserted. A slow and partial recovery is in progress, but nothing will accelerate it until the river to foreign steamers and foreign trade is opened. The Yangtze had not been opened in 1860 to foreign intercourse it is certain that the cities on its banks, from Chingkiang to Hankow, would have remained to this day ruined and poverty-stricken just as the once thriving cities of Kuangsi are now. Foreign steamers will suppress piracy; the regularity, comfort, and cheapness of transit will promote trade; and as interchange becomes easy and frequent the fields will once more be cultivated, the towns will become busy, and the population will gradually attain order, comfort, and prosperity.

We hope soon to be able to announce that a suitable port for foreign trade has been selected to be opened on the West River, with right of access to it by vessels under foreign as well as Chinese flags. At the first Wuchow seems to be the most accessible market, as steamers drawing 7 or 8 feet of water can reach it from the sea. The branch that turns off at Wuchow, and extends as far as Kuei-in, the capital of Kuangsi, can only be used by small native boats, and is not fitted for navigation even by steamers of the smallest size. Nor is the larger branch, that is a point not far from Wuchow leaves the West River and trends in a northerly direction, available for navigation, for it is so full of shoals, whirlpools, and rapids as to be practically unnavigable. So that, as far as we know, the river that flows from Wenchow past Nan-ning to Peking is the only stream that can be turned to account.

For many reasons it would be desirable to open Nan-ning to foreign trade but until a thorough exploration and survey is made of the rapids between that place and Wuchow it is doubtful whether the route is, under its existing conditions, practicable. The rapids, of course, can be dealt with by dynamite, and the rocky bed can be cleared away by blasting, but the Chinese will not slow to recover the beneficial effects of foreign methods of engineering, and are quite likely to object even to such a simple expedient for making navigation safe and easy as the cable towage or traction system.

The immediate tendency of the opening of the West River would be to benefit Canton, and it may be considered certain that such is the motive of the Imperial Government. The step projected would, therefore, at once have popular acceptance. The Cantonese Guilds, it is said, were much alarmed at the idea that their ancient trading importance would dwindle away for the aggrandisement of French Indo-China and British Burma, and the opening of the West River will re-assure the Chinese traders that their interests have been cared for by the Imperial Government of Peking and the Viceroy of the Canton provinces.—Chinese Times.

MANCHURIA.

MOURDEN, August, 1888.

Severe drought prevailed during the months of May and June. During those months hardly a drop of rain fell. Cattle and simple flocks to the temple to pray, and many an eloquent appeal with incense and becoming genuflections to the Almighty, whom they thus ignorantly worship. "As children in sore distress cry aloud to their parents for help and succour"—one such document ran—so those suppliants implored that the ravages of the demon of drought might be stayed by the coming forth of the vapoury Dragon from its profound abode. The rain came—some considerable time, however, after the praying pilgrims to the temples had ceased—and the peasants had done their duty by the gods and their people. The crops in this neighbourhood are much lighter than last year, but still they are a fair average. As things are at present, it has neither the ability nor the will to put a stop to the thing. You have the native religious systems, which are ethically effete. I was going to say that the moral sense of the Chinese people had hope in it. But unfortunately the Chinese are morally senseless. Their morality, like Mahomet's creed, being only in their holy books. It is a frame without a picture, a body without a soul. Christianity can and ultimately shall heal this and every other sore of China. But Christianity is only in its infancy, cherished by foreign nurses, some of them foolish and none of them or wiser. It will, humbly speaking, be a long time before it can look for the noble and ennobling principle of our Christian faith influencing the morality of China as a whole. We can only hope for the time when the swaddling clothes will be laid aside, the foreign nurses dispensed with, and then—Chinese Times.

THE MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY ACT (1882).

There's a pleasurable fancy fostered by a recent Act, That the law enables every married woman to contract; And a superficial student might incautiously conclude That all wives who buy on credit can successfully be sued. But 'tis not an easy enterprise to prove a wife a debtor; For the spirit killeth tradesmen's hopes of payment (not the letter). Hear the meaning of the statute, which its words at first concealed, Now by manifold decision at a vast expense revealed! You may sue a married woman for the price of goods supplied; But twist suing and recovering the difference is wide. First, the onus lies on you to prove that, when the goods were bought, She had separate estate; or else your action comes to naught. Should the wife from alienation have been thoughtfully restrained, Though you trusted her for thousands, not a sou can be regained; And, however large her income, it is equitably held. That to satisfy the smallest claim she cannot be compelled. Wives are not as single women or as men; their plight is better. For a wife, unless a trader, cannot make herself a debtor. She shall not be sent to prison, like a spinster or a man. If she will not pay her judgment creditors, although she can. She shall not be made a bankrupt (as may widow, maid and male); That is, not unless she carry on a separate trade and fail. Wherefore, bless ye wives, the freedom which to you the Act accords! Bless the parliamentary draftsman! Bless the Commons! Bless the Lords! Bless the judges, to whose wit ye owe the statute's explanation! Bless Lord Thurlow for the clause restraining wives' captivation! Nor omit to bless the writer, who has given his spare time To expounding married women's privilege in simple rhyme! —St. James's Gazette.

To-day's Advertisements.

ZETLAND LODGE.

REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FRERMASSONS' HALL, Zetland Street, THIS EVENING, 4th September, at 8.30 for 9 O'CLOCK precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited. Hongkong, 4th September, 1888. [843]

Auctions.

THE following Particulars of Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction, to be held on the spot, on

MONDAY,

the 10th day of September, 1888, at 5 P.M., are published for general information. By Command, FREDERICK STEWART, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 1st September, 1888. [868]

Particulars of the letting by Public Auction, to be held on MONDAY, the 10th day of September, 1888, at 5 P.M., by Order of His Excellency the GOVERNOR, of One Lot of CROWN LAND, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 Years.

No. of Registry	No. of Building Lot	Locality	N. Boundary Measurements	S. Boundary Measurements	E. Boundary Measurements	W. Boundary Measurements	Contents in Square ft.	Annual Rent	Upset Price
666	440	350	94.450	348	3,000				

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

THE following Particulars of Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction, to be held on the spot, on

TUESDAY,

the 11th day of September, 1888, at 4 P.M., are published for general information. By Command, FREDERICK STEWART, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 1st September, 1888. [869]

Particulars of the letting by Public Auction, to be held on TUESDAY, the 11th day of September, 1888, at 4 P.M., by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of Fourteen Lots of CROWN LAND, at Yau-mat, Kauling, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 Years.

No. of Registry	No. of Building Lot	Locality	N. Boundary Measurements	S. Boundary Measurements	E. Boundary Measurements	W. Boundary Measurements	Contents in Square ft.	Annual Rent	Upset Price
555	555	555	555	555	555	555	555	555	555

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE GENERAL DIVIDEND declared for the year ended April 30th last, at the rate of \$5 per Share of \$25, is now payable. Shareholders are requested to apply at the Company's Office for Warrants.

A. S. GARFIT, Acting Secretary. Hongkong, 3rd September, 1888. [873]

Intimations.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

CONTRIBUTING SHAREHOLDERS are requested to send in a Statement of Business Contributed during the half-year ended 30th June, 1888, on or before the 30th instant, on which date the Accounts will be CLOSED. By Order of the Board of Directors, D. GILLIES, Secretary.

Hongkong, 3rd September, 1888. [1872]

THE STEAM LAUNCH COMPANY, LIMITED.

LAUNCHES always on hand for—PICNIC, TOWING BATHING, PRIVATE PARTIES, &c. &c.

For Terms, apply to Co.'s Office—CORNER OF PEDDER STREET AND PRAYA.

1888 WINTER TIME TABLE. 1888

THE STEAM LAUNCH COMPANY, LIMITED.

KOWLOON FERRY.

THE COMMODOUS STEAM LAUNCH "PIONEER."

Will, from the 1st September, 1888, run daily as a Ferry Boat between Pedder's Wharf and Kowloon Point at the following hours.

WEEK DAYS	LEAVES KOWLOON	LEAVES HONGKONG
6.00 A.M.	7.00 A.M.	
7.45 "	8.00 "	
8.40 "	9.00 "	
9.20 "	9.30 "	
9.40 "	10.30 "	
11.00 "	1.05 "	
12.00 "	2.05 "	
1.50 "	4.00 "	
2.30 "	4.30 "	
3.30 "	5.05 "	
4.15 "	5.30 "	
4.50 "	6.00 "	
5.15 "	6.30 "	
5.45 "	7.00 "	
6.15 "	7.30 "	
6.45 "	8.00 "	
7.15 "	8.30 P.M.	
7.45 "	9.00 P.M.	
8.15 "	11.00 "	
8.45 "	12.00 "	

For each Trip, 10 Cents. Children under 10 years, 5 Cents. Second Class, (Chinese), 2 Cents. Sedan Chairs, each, 10 Cents.

FOR KOWLOON RESIDENTS. Family Tickets, including Servants, (per month), \$7. Single Tickets, for one person only and his Servants, (per month), \$5.

If more than one person, not forming part of the Family, Fare will be fixed on application to the Secretary.

FOR NON-RESIDENTS. Quarterly Tickets, \$4. Quarterly Tickets, for Servants only, (2 allowed), \$2.

For Extra trips to or from Hongkong, between the advertised time, at the rate of \$1 per trip each way.

NIGHT SERVICE.—All Passengers, whether Subscribers or otherwise, will be charged 20 cents each way.

A. G. GORDON, Secretary and Manager. Hongkong, 1st September, 1888. [866]

NOTICE.

ROSE & Co. beg to inform the Community of Hongkong that in order to facilitate their STOCK-TAKING the DOOR of their STORE will be CLOSED from SATURDAY, the 1st September to a few days after.

Due notice will be given when re-opening again. Important and Special Orders can be sent in by the dwelling house entrance, next door to Messrs. Wotton & Deacon, Solicitors. Hongkong, 29th August, 1888. [847]

FOR HIRE.

THE Fast Steam Launch "ELK" is always kept under steam off Pedder's Wharf and is at the service of the public for proceeding to and from Steamers, Picnic and Bathing Parties, etc.

For particulars, apply to CRICKSHANK & Co., Ltd. Hongkong, 17th August, 1888. [801]

HONGKONG TIMBER YARD WANCHAI.

OREGON PINE SPARS AND LUMBER Always on Hand. L. MALLORY, Proprietor. Hongkong, 24th June, 1887. [36]

J. & R. TENNENT'S ALE AND PORTER.

DAVID CORSE & SONS' MARY BOND CANVAS. ARNOLD, KARBURG & Co. Hongkong, 11th June, 1888. [630]

Intimations.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

OLD OR BROKEN NOTES will be EXCHANGED for new ones on application at the Office of the Corporation. For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 29th August, 1888. [845]

CHINA MERCHANTS' STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S DEBENTURE LOAN OF 1886.

4th DRAWING.

NOTICE is hereby given that in conformity with the Stipulations contained in the BONDS of this LOAN, the following Numbers of Bonds to be paid off at the Office of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION on the 1st September, 1888, when the Interest thereon will cease to be payable, were this day drawn at the Office of the said Corporation in Hongkong, in the presence of WILLIAM HENRY GASKELL Acting Chief Accountant of the said Corporation.

NUMBERS OF BONDS DRAWN. 170 BONDS NOS.

18	22	37	38	81	96	109
140	148	169	190	206	234	239
270	273	295	309	333	359	363
379	400	424	444	457	471	487
520	533	554	561	585	610	621
640	659	671	701	708	733	744
763	785	793	817	840	863	879
882	904	920	942	960	975	1007
1024	1034	1051	1062	1076	1102	1117
1140	1158	1186	1193	1208	1235	1253
1262	1282	1311	1315	1343	1359	1383
1394	1414	1432	1447	1464	1484	1490
1497	1501	1515	1532	1562	1579	1588
1607	1611	1620	1644	1666	1690	1706
1714	1733	1749	1753	1798	1814	1820
1852	1869	1872	1894	1910	1940	1944
1970	1995	2013	2025	2035	2051	2069
2093	2119	2138	2148	2172	2185	2194
2220	2236	2263	2270	2293	2317	2347
2339	2360	2391	2400	2427	2437	2447
2472	2495	2508	2520	2540	2562	2588
2596	2610	2633	2651	2676	2685	2700
2720	2741	2767	2785	2798	2805	2826
2843	2865	2886	2894	2924	2933	2953
2976	2980					

FOR £100 EACH = £17,000.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, W. H. GASKELL, Acting Chief Accountant.

Hongkong, 13th July, 1888. [846]

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE FOR CHINESE, HONGKONG.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE COLONY.

Rector—Hon. FRED. STEWART, M.A., LL.D. Dean—PATRICK MANSON, M.D., LL.D.

SECOND SESSION—1888-9.

THE INAUGURATION OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE COLLEGE will take place in the CITY HALL, Hongkong, on the 1st October, 1888.

The SCHOLARSHIPS and PRIZES awarded for the Session 1887-8, will be DISTRIBUTED by His Excellency the Governor, Sir WM. DES VŒUX, K.C.M.G.

The WINTER LECTURES commence on TUESDAY, 2nd October, 1888. STUDENTS are to assemble at the ALICE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL at 8 a.m.

PROFESSORS, LECTURERS & DEMONSTRATORS. Ambulance and Duties in the Field—Dep. Surgeon-General LEWIS, and the Officers. Army Medical Staff.

Anatomy—JAMES CANTLIE, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S. Botany—CHARLES FORD, F.L.S. Chemistry—W. E. CROW, Esq. Dental Surgery—HERBERT FOOTE, D.D.S.; and JOSEPH W. NOBLE, D.D.S. Demonstrator of Anatomy—A. DE C. SCANTAN, A.M.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Forensic Medicine—

Medical Jurisprudence—HO KAI, M.D., M.R.C.S., BARRISTER-AT-LAW. Toxicology—W. E. CROW, Esq. Hygiene and Public Health—HUGH MCCALLUM, Esq. Hygiene (Military)—Officers, Army Medical Staff.

Latin—E. J. EITEL, PH. D. Materia Medica and Therapeutics—D. GERARD, M.D. Medicine—PATRICK MANSON, M.D., LL.D. Obstetrics and Gynecology—WM. HARTIGAN, M.D., L.R.C.S.I. Ophthalmology—G. P. JORDAN, M.B., M.R.C.S. Pathology and Morbid Anatomy—G. P. JORDAN, M.B., M.R.C.S. Physics—Rev. JOHN CHALMERS, M.A., LL.D. Physiology—J. M. ATKINSON, M.D. (Lond.) M.R.C.S.; HO KAI, M.D., M.R.C.S. Surgery—Principles and Practice—JAMES CANTLIE, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S. Pathological and Special—G. P. JORDAN, M.B., M.R.C.S. Surgery—Military—Officers, Army Medical Staff.

Fees for the Full Course—200 dollars, payable in one sum, at the beginning of the first Winter Session. When paid in two sums, Fees are charged at the rate of 220 dollars. When paid in four sums, Fees are charged at the rate of 240 dollars.

FOUR BENEFICIAL SCHOLARSHIPS, value 60 DOLLARS a-year each, to be held for Two Years, are bestowed upon STUDENTS of the College, studying at the ALICE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

TWO WATSON SCHOLARSHIPS, value 60 DOLLARS a-year each, are thrown open annually for Competition to STUDENTS of the College.

Clinical Surgery, Medicine, and Obstetrics are taught daily in the wards of the Alice Memorial Hospital. The average attendance of Patients at the Alice Memorial Hospital amounts to about 20,000 annually.

Special arrangements have been made with the Principal Medical Officer of the Army Medical Staff to carry on the work of training Chinese for Medical Military Duty.

For further information, apply to JAMES CANTLIE, Secretary to the College. Hongkong, 1st September, 1888. [865]

MISSING.

FROM PEDDER'S HILL, A COCKATOO. The finder will oblige by returning it to the

OFFICE OF THIS PAPER. Hongkong, 31st August, 1888.

Insurances.

THE NEGLECT OF LIFE ASSURANCE.

THERE is no feature of our civilised life that strikes a thoughtful man with more force than the neglect of LIFE ASSURANCE. By payment of a small quarterly subscription any man of good health can secure a very large sum to his family in case of premature death, yet hundreds of families brought up in comfort—perhaps in luxury—are left in extreme poverty every year from the bread winner having neglected to assure his life. In the East many a man lives up to his income, knowing well that if death cut him off suddenly, his wife and children would be left almost wholly unprovided for. All this can be prevented by Life Assurance.

EVERY FACILITY In connection with Life Assurance Business is afforded by

THE STANDARD LIFE OFFICE, one of the largest and wealthiest of the Provident Institutions of the United Kingdom. Forms of application and all information will be promptly afforded on application to any of the Standard Company's Agents, or to

THE BORNEO COMPANY, LD., Agents, Hongkong. Hongkong, 29th June, 1888. [659]

SOUTH BRITISH FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND.

I HAVE this day transferred the AGENCY of the above Company in Hongkong to Mr. H. F. WAGSTAFF.

ALEXANDER LEVY.

THE Company's Business will in future be carried on at No. 5, Queen's Road Central, First Floor.

H. F. WAGSTAFF. Hongkong, 1st September, 1888. [862]

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....\$1,000,000

The above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on GOODS, &c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies. WOO LIN YUEN, Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE, No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST. Hongkong, 1st February, 1888. [150]

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED).

CAPITAL TAELS 600,000, } \$833,333-33- EQUAL TO } RESERVE FUND \$240,000-00.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS. LEE SING, Esq. LO YUEN MOON, Esq. LOU TSO SHUN, Esq.

MANAGER—HO AMEL.

MARINE RISKS on GOODS, &c., taken at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 6, PRAYA WEST. Hongkong, 17th December, 1887. [858]

To be Let.

TO LET—OR FOR SALE.

'AT CANAL ROAD, CANTON.

THE BLUE HOUSE, being a most substantial and fine Building, adjoining a Bridge at CANAL ROAD and containing six Rooms, Servants' Quarters and Bath Rooms, &c. Apply to

THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" OFFICE, or To the Owner in Said Premises. Hongkong, 1st September, 1888. [863]

TO LET.

N. O. 3, WEST TERRACE. Entry, 1st October next.

Apply to G. C. ANDERSON, 13, Praya Central. Hongkong, 31st August, 1888. [845]

TO LET.

ROOMS in "COLLEGE CHAMBERS."

GODOWN in ICE HOUSE LANE, lately occupied by Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, from the 1st August.

Apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co. Hongkong, 12th July, 1888. [12]

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

TWO Twenty Ton HYDRAULIC JACKS. Price \$150 each.

One Fifteen Ton TRAVERSING HYDRAULIC JACK. Price \$200.

QUITE NEW, TANGY'S PATENT. Apply to A. H.

Care of the Office of this paper. Hongkong, 3rd September, 1888. [874]

JAPANESE BEER.

FROM THE JAPAN BREWERY COMPANY, LIMITED, Yokohama.

In Cases of 4 Dozen Quarts \$9.00 For Sale by LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 31st August, 1888. [854]

